

INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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CCC EXTENSION REQUESTED

WFA Administrator Forecasts Need of Continuing Farmer Support Prices Through 1944

The House Committee on Banking and Currency opened hearings this week on the subject of continuation of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones and CCC President J. B. Hutson requested the Committee to extend the life of the Corporation for 18 months beyond December 31, 1943, and to increase its borrowing power by \$500,000,000. Such an increase in CCC funds would give the Corporation approximately one billion dollars with which to support farm prices through loans and by purchase and resale programs.

In a prepared statement he read to the Committee, Administrator Jones said that 1944 was to be an all-out production year with an acreage goal of 380,000,000 acres—16,000,000 acres more than this year.

"I hope," he said, "that it won't be necessary to draw on the full borrowing capacity of the Corporation for crop loans and price supports. But at the same time, in order to assure production, we must be in a position to make good our guarantees to farmers of prices that are necessary to see them through the growing, harvesting, and marketing seasons."

"You, of course, are familiar with the effort to stabilize consumer prices. We are also committed to a policy of getting a larger production of food this year than last. This may make necessary some additional support prices."

Administrator Jones continued with a forecast of higher production costs in 1944 which will mean farmers' returns will need to be somewhat more.

"In my judgment, the best way to get production is to have a definite support price that will last throughout the season. It should be high enough to cover the added risks and hazards that go with increased production. And it should be announced early. This means that the Government would stand ready to buy any surplus of a commodity that might not flow into regular channels at the time, and to absorb whatever loss may be necessary."

In connection with this policy announcement of extending support prices, Administrator Jones stated that some price supports for perishable commodities will be announced. He requested that the laws under which the Corporation functions be changed to permit the sale of perishable commodities at less than parity, when necessary to prevent waste of food. At present, grain for feeding is the only commodity the Corporation may sell at less than parity, the Administrator said. He agreed to submit to the Committee a list of commodities that would be considered by CCC as perishable for purposes of sale to prevent loss of food.

Many members of the Committee urged the Administrator to announce the full details of the various commodity programs as soon as possible. One Congressman told Mr. Jones that unless a definite program is announced now, 50 per cent of the canners in his district would not operate next year.

Committee members also were interested in the relationship between the

(Concluded on page 7875)

PRICE CONFERENCES HELD

Processors of Apples, Kraut, Grapefruit And Grapes Meet with OPA And WFA Officials

Committees representing processors of apples, sauerkraut, grapefruit, and grapes were in Washington during the past week conferring with the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration on prices to be established for these raw products that will later be reflected in the prices of the finished product, and upon the method of controlling or allocating the supplies going to the various branches of the food industry.

Processors state they can not safely proceed with their operations without knowing in advance the price they will have to pay for raw products and the prices at which they will be permitted to sell their finished product. In addition, they need to know the basis on which available supplies of raw materials will be controlled or allocated to canners, freezers, dehydrators, etc., so that they may plan the extent of their operations.

According to canners, a statement or promise that prices of the finished product will be so fixed as to reflect the prices that are established for the raw product does not in itself give the processor a definite basis for calculating the price at which he will be permitted to sell his finished product. Consequently, the processor may find himself in the position of paying the price fixed for the raw material, with the expectation of selling at a reasonable price and then be unable to dispose of his finished product without incurring losses. This is the present situation with respect to canned red sour cherries.

To date there have been announced the maximum prices processors may pay for grapes and the prices for kraut cabbage which are to be reflected in the price for processed kraut.

The problems connected with the products discussed during the week are typical of those that will arise in the 1944 canning program. Canners, therefore, are anxiously awaiting the action taken upon them, as it is expected that this will indicate to some extent the policies to be followed in 1944.

Filing of Hardship Claims

Canning operations for the 1943 season are now drawing to a close, and canners are in position to determine whether and to what extent they have suffered such hardships arising from government regulations governing their operations as will justify filing an application for relief with the Commodity Credit Corporation. An example of such hardships is the War Labor Board's approval of wage increases found necessary to obtain labor for the civilian pack, while at the same time the added costs have not been allowed for in ceiling prices. Applications should be filed with the CCC as soon as information with respect to hardships becomes available. Early filing will enable the CCC more promptly to determine the extent to which they exist throughout the industry, and the appropriate action to be taken.

Schedule of State Meetings on Food Production Goals Announced

Program for 1944 Will Be Subject of Consultations During October

A schedule of State meetings, to be held during October, for the development of 1944 State farm production goals by State groups in consultation with representatives of the War Food Administration, was announced September 28 by War Food Administrator Marvin Jones.

Suggestions for expanded 1944 production to meet ever-increasing wartime demands for food and other farm commodities already have been sent to every State for consideration by the State Agricultural War Boards and other farm representatives. The State boards have been asked to formulate 1944 goals which will enable every farmer to make the greatest possible contribution to wartime food production.

Nationally, the 1944 war food production program calls for planting a record-breaking 380 million acres in crops and the maintenance of high production levels for meats, dairy products and eggs. The State committees will draw up State programs on the basis of estimated production capacity balanced against wartime needs.

Problems relating to labor, machinery, supplies, conservation practices, prices, and other production factors will be considered at the 48 meetings, at which WFA representatives from Washington will be present to furnish information on these problems. The meeting schedule follows:

Alabama, Auburn, Oct. 7-9.
Arizona, Phoenix, Oct. 11-12.
Arkansas, Little Rock, Oct. 14-16.
California, Berkeley, Oct. 14-16*
Colorado, Denver, Oct. 4-6.
Connecticut, Hartford, Oct. 15-16*.
Delaware, Newark, Oct. 14-16.
Florida, Gainesville, Oct. 14-16.
Georgia, Athens, Oct. 11-13.
Idaho, Boise, Oct. 11-13.
Illinois, Decatur, Oct. 14-16.
Indiana, Indianapolis, Oct. 7-9.
Iowa, Des Moines, Oct. 11-13.
Kansas, Manhattan, Oct. 4-6.
Kentucky, Lexington, Oct. 18-20.
Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Oct. 4-6.
Maine, Bangor, Oct. 26-27.
Maryland, College Park, Oct. 11-13.
Massachusetts, Amherst, Oct. 13-14.
Michigan, Lansing, Oct. 18-20.
Minnesota, St. Paul, Oct. 7-9.
Mississippi, Jackson, Oct. 4-5.
Missouri, Columbia, Oct. 11-13.
Montana, Bozeman, Oct. 21-23.
Nebraska, Lincoln, Oct. 14-16.
Nevada, Reno, Oct. 19.
New Hampshire, Durham, Oct. 28-29.
New Jersey, New Brunswick, Oct. 21-22.
New Mexico, Albuquerque, Oct. 7-9.
New York, Syracuse, Oct. 14-16.
North Carolina, Raleigh, Oct. 5-7.
North Dakota, Fargo, Oct. 29-30.
Ohio, Columbus, Oct. 4-6.
Oklahoma, Stillwater, Oct. 11-13.

* Tentative.

Oregon, Portland, Oct. 14-16.
Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Oct. 21-22.
Rhode Island, Providence, Oct. 13.
South Carolina, Columbia, Oct. 28-30.
South Dakota, Huron, Oct. 18-20.
Tennessee, Nashville, Oct. 14-16.
Texas, College Station, Oct. 7-9.
Utah, Salt Lake City, Oct. 21-22.
Vermont, Burlington, Oct. 11-12.
Virginia, Blacksburg, Oct. 11-13.
Washington, Spokane, Oct. 18-19.
West Virginia, Morgantown, Oct. 5-7.
Wisconsin, Madison, Oct. 4-6.
Wyoming, Laramie, Oct. 7-9.

Florida Meeting Date Set

The 12th annual meeting of the Florida Canners Association will be held at the Tampa Terrace Hotel, Tampa, October 29.

PRICE CEILINGS FOR KRAUT

To Be Based on Average Prices Packers Actually Pay for Cabbage Up to \$22 per Ton

To enable packers to obtain enough cabbage to meet military requirements for sauerkraut and at the same time assist them in packing a limited amount of kraut for civilian use, the Office of Price Administration and the War Food Administration jointly announced on September 27 that ceiling prices for kraut will be based on average prices that packers actually pay for cabbage, up to a maximum of \$22 per ton.

Nearly 3½ million cases (basis No. 2's) of sauerkraut are needed to meet military requirements, it was stated. Present prices for cabbage on the fresh market are at such levels that it is considered necessary to permit packers to pay up to an average of \$22 per ton in order to obtain sufficient supplies to meet these kraut requirements.

WFA pointed out that this basis for establishing ceilings is to meet an emergency situation by permitting packers to pay, if necessary, an amount over the \$12 per ton support price for contracted as well as open market cabbage. Growers are not to interpret this as an increase in the present support price of \$12 per ton for cabbage for kraut or that WFA will support cabbage at a higher price than \$12; nor does this indicate what the support price for cabbage may be next year, the press statement said.

The prices paid to growers to meet the emergency situation, either under contract or on the open market, must be on the basis of cabbage delivered to the packer's plant or major assembly point in producing areas and in accordance with other provisions established by the State Agricultural War Boards.

WHOLESALE INVENTORIES

Method of Figuring Allowable Maximum Under Rationing is Changed

A change in the method used by wholesalers of processed foods in computing their maximum allowable inventories under rationing was announced by the Office of Price Administration.

The maximum inventory that a wholesaler of processed foods is allowed to have under rationing is stated in ration points, and is computed under the order at present on the basis of his sales or transfers of processed foods during his "second preceding reporting period." As a result of the change, which is made through Amendment 60 to Ration Order 13, effective October 2, a wholesaler's maximum allowable inventory will be computed on the basis of his sales and transfers during the "first three of the four preceding reporting periods." The resulting figure will be divided by three to arrive at an average for the three periods, and the result multiplied by a factor, or number, which the OPA will fix for the reporting period in question. To illustrate:

Under the present method, a wholesaler would compute his maximum allowable inventory for the reporting period October 3 through October 30 on the basis of his sales or transfers during the reporting period August 1 through September 4.

As a result of the change in method, a wholesaler will compute his inventory for the October period by computing the point value of his transfers during the first three of the four preceding reporting periods, namely, for the periods June 6 through July 3, July 4 through July 31, and August 1 through September 4. That figure is then divided by three to arrive at an average for the three periods, and the result is multiplied by a factor, recently announced as six, for the October period.

"The present basis for computing a wholesaler's maximum allowable inventory has had the advantage of enabling a wholesaler to know, at the end of any reporting period, what his maximum allowable inventory would be during the two following periods, and thus to plan his purchasing ahead," OPA rationing officials said. "However, it had the disadvantage of making a wholesaler's maximum allowable inventory dependent on his transfers during one reporting period, with the result that a wholesaler, who had an erratic or unusual period of transfers, would have that irregularity reflected in his maximum allowable inventory during the second succeeding reporting period."

"To retain the advantage of the present method, and at the same time eliminate its disadvantage, the order is amended to discount the influence of one erratic or unusual period by using as a basis, instead, the average of three reporting periods."

OPA Sets Wholesale Inventory Factor for November Period

The wholesale inventory factor for processed foods has been set at 6 by the Office of Price Administration for the reporting period beginning October 31 and ending December 4, 1943, the same as for the reporting period October 3-30.

The factor is used in determining a wholesaler's maximum allowable inventory. For the November period, this will be calculated by adding the wholesaler's sales or transfers, in points, for July, August, and September, and dividing by three to strike a monthly average. The average is then multiplied by the factor, 6, and the resulting figure is the wholesaler's maximum allowable inventory in points.

Announcement of the November factor is being made weeks ahead of time in keeping with a plan, announced last June, for smoothing the flow of new packs of processed foods from processors to wholesalers and thence to the shelves of retailers. Advance notice as to the size of inventories enables wholesalers to plan their buying. This, in turn, gives them elbow room in balancing their inventories. Processors are aided, meanwhile, because the method creates point purchasing power at a time when it is needed to move merchandise that otherwise would accumulate in packers' warehouses, and by the assurance the plan gives them that wholesalers' allowable inventories during November will enable them to take down the packs as they come off the production line.

The new factor is established in Amendment No. 23 to Revised Supplement 1, Ration Order 13 (Processed Foods), and becomes effective October 6, 1943.

South African Prune Crop

Production of prunes in South Africa during 1943 is estimated at 1,587,225 pounds, a decrease of 2,295,360 pounds compared with 1942, according to the Department of Commerce.

The decreased production was occasioned by adverse weather. Stocks of prunes on hand are estimated at 400 long tons.

WFA, OPA Announce Policy of Joint Consultation with Industry Identical Advisory Committees Planned For the Food Divisions of Both Government Agencies

Joint formation of, and consultation with, industry advisory committees was announced September 29 by the War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration.

The program, which will apply to the Food Price and Food Rationing Divisions of OPA and to the Food Production Administration and Food Distribution Administration, was announced following an exchange of letters between Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown and War Food Administrator Marvin Jones. Preliminary announcement of the new policy was made in the INFORMATION LETTER for September 11.

Both WFA and OPA have had industry advisory committees almost from the dates of their inception, some organized formally and others on an informal base.

The agreement reached between Mr. Brown and Mr. Jones deals with committees already established by the agencies, with committees which may be established in the future, and with the manner in which the committees shall be called together and shall function. The joint WFA and OPA press release stated that:

"When an industry advisory committee already exists in either agency and the other agency is establishing a similar committee, it will, wherever possible, invite identical membership. When an established committee does not have a membership appropriate for the problems of the agency which proposes to formalize it, OPA and WFA shall consider such nominations as they believe will make the existing committee broadly representative in its constituted form.

"In case one agency does not feel that it is necessary to formalize a committee previously established by the other, the first agency will, nevertheless, recognize the committee and cooperate to the fullest with it.

"When new committees are to be appointed to meet the needs of the two agencies, nominations will be made by each agency and, when the nominees are mutually agreed upon, letters of appointment will be sent from each agency.

"The fact that a committee is established in either agency does not necessarily bind the other to establish a committee for the same industry or field. Both agencies stress that committees will be set up only where they can serve a useful purpose.

"To make the best use of industry advice at a minimum of lost time and

minimum of expense, OPA and WFA will act jointly to establish identical dates and acceptable meeting places for the committees. This should tend to coordinate the work of the two agencies and should enable both to make the most effective use of industry advice.

"Details of the plan were worked out by Jean F. Carroll, director of OPA's Food Price Division; E. A. Meyer, chief, Processors Branch, WFA; J. Howard Miller, administrative officer, OPA Food Price Division; William A. Nielander, assistant director, OPA Food Rationing Division; Josiah G. Fort, assistant chief, Processors Branch, WFA; and Mrs. Ethel B. Gilbert, chairman, OPA Industry Advisory Committees."

Lovegren and Baker Among New Appointees to OPA

Four appointments to the staff of the Food Price Division of the Office of Price Administration were announced September 29 by General Manager Chester Bowles. They are:

Geoffrey Baker, assistant to the director of the food price division; Colin S. Gordon, price executive of the cereals, feeds and agricultural chemicals branch; Herbert J. Bird, head of the poultry and egg section; and Carl Lovegren, head of the canned fruits and vegetables section.

Mr. Baker was formerly assistant national manager of institutional products for the General Foods Corporation. He first came to OPA in March, 1942, as price executive in the grocery products branch. In July, 1943, he went to the Office of the Lend-lease Administration, where he worked until his return to OPA.

Mr. Gordon was vice president in charge of grain operations for the Quaker Oats Company in Chicago, and director of the Chicago Board of Trade.

Mr. Bird was assistant manager of the dairy and poultry department of Swift and Company.

Mr. Lovegren, appointed to head the canned fruits and vegetables section, was president of Hunt Brothers Packing Company of Piedmont, California.

B. C. Apple Crop Reduced

A revised estimate of this year's apple crop of British Columbia places the yield at 4,197,200 boxes compared with 5,808,352 boxes in 1942, according to the Department of Commerce.

Production of pears is estimated at 241,900 boxes, a decrease of about 36 per cent compared with 1942.

RESEARCH REPORT ON PROCESSED FRUITS, VEGETABLES IN RELATION TO THE PROBABLE SUPPLY OF TINPLATE

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued a research report on processed fruits and vegetables in relation to the supply of tinplate in which it discusses the importance of canned fruits and vegetables in the country's diet, the reasons for the shortage of these products in the civilian trade, the possibility of a shortage of cans, and various proposals for reducing the consumption of tinplate, such as increased marketings of fresh foods, use of glass containers, increase in production of dehydrated and frozen foods, and the possibility of converting ice cream manufacturing facilities to freezing fruits and vegetables. Following are excerpts from the report:

"Canned fruits and vegetables constitute an important part of the diet of consumers in the United States, representing about 20 per cent of the total consumption of fruits in all forms and 25 per cent of the total consumption of vegetables. The so-called shortage of canned goods which early in 1943 led to rationing, reflected mostly an increased demand due to larger consumer incomes, although production has been curtailed to some extent and military and Lend-lease requirements take a sizable proportion of the total pack. A real shortage would develop if the tin and steel situation made it necessary to curtail drastically the quantity of tinplate made available to the canning industry.

"It would be desirable, of course, to expand the production of canned fruits and vegetables to care for these increased demands but there are several obstacles to increased production. They include such considerations as these: (1) The production and processing of canning crops require large numbers of seasonally employed laborers and they are very difficult to obtain during wartime; many of the migratory and local workers who formerly were available to cultivate, harvest, and process the canning crops have gone into various war occupations. (2) Favorable prices for competing crops have caused some producers to shift away from the production of canning crops. (3) High prices for fresh produce tend to divert potential raw materials to the fresh trade. (4) Difficulties and uncertainties to be expected in the administration of complicated price controls in some cases have thrown out of balance the normal cost-price relations and discouraged processors from assuming the risks entailed in maximum production of canned goods. (5) Weather has been unfavorable in some parts of the country in 1943. (6) Even if these conditions did not prevail, the necessity of conserving tin would prohibit large expansion of output.

"It is highly desirable to conserve all the steel we can for it is needed for war purposes, but steel can be made available for use in canning in case no substitute is at hand. The critical factor in the tinplate situation is tin. Imports now being obtained from Bolivia and Africa, together with conservation measures already in effect, have brought a brighter outlook for tin supplies in relation to needs than had been anticipated earlier in the war. But it would require perhaps two years after the end of the war for countries that formerly supplied the United States with tin to get back into production. The present situation in regard to supply and requirement indicates that we could maintain consumption at the current rate for perhaps four more years of war. But it would not be desirable to permit stockpiles to decline to zero so long as there is uncertainty with respect to the timing of victory over Japan. Hence, unless the war terminates within a year or two more drastic conservation measures than those now in effect may be necessary.

"Several alternative methods of reducing the consumption of tinplate for preserving fruits and vegetables are available. The most obvious of those—greater use of fresh products—is of limited effectiveness because of the seasons of harvests of fruits and vegetables now used for canning, a shortage of refrigerator cars, the unsuitability for shipping and handling in the fresh state of some products now grown for canning, and other conditions.

"Increased use of glass containers is limited by glass-production facilities, the shortage of suitable material for closures, and the difficulty of converting canning equipment from tin to glass.

"The greatly expanded production of dehydrated products is thus far almost entirely for military and Lend-lease uses, and the provision of additional facilities sufficient to care for all of the canned goods would require much critical material even if consumers could be persuaded rapidly to use this form of product.

"It would be desirable to expand the output of frozen foods greatly, but the regular commercial frozen-foods industry already is operating at capacity, and an expansion to care for any large part of present canned goods output would apparently take prohibitive quantities of critical materials and manufacturing facilities.

"Under these circumstances one of the most feasible alternatives for caring for a considerable part of the fruits and vegetables now preserved by canning would be the utilization of ice cream manufacturing and distributing facilities. After allowing for minimum requirements for canned goods for military and Lend-lease use and for the

rural civilian population, and for those fruits and vegetables not well adapted to freezing, it is estimated that the remaining products could be frozen and distributed by using the existing ice cream plant and retail distribution facilities. This would not necessitate complete abandonment of ice cream manufacturing or the use of ice cream plants in those States that do not contribute materially to the output of canned fruits and vegetables. It makes allowances for other factors that limit the use of manufacturing facilities for this purpose."

With reference to the foregoing report, the *New York Journal of Commerce* on September 30 stated that officials of the Food Distribution Administration say that the canning and packing of fruits and vegetables will not be as limited by shortages of tin and rubber as the BAE study suggested. New can production methods will, they say, reduce by one-half to two-thirds the amount of tin needed for can manufacture in 1944. They also point out that there are no restrictions on use of rubber for essential closures, so glass packing should not be limited by a closure shortage.

Regarding the possible use of ice cream manufacturing facilities for freezing fruits and vegetables, FDA officials also point out that most ice cream plants are not located near fruit and vegetable production areas.

TIN CAN SALVAGE DRIVE

Goal of Intensified Campaign Set At 400,000,000 Containers Monthly

The drive for salvage of used tin cans is being intensified to reach a goal of 400,000,000 monthly. This will represent recovery of twice the number currently being collected. Issuing a statement on the drive, Donald M. Nelson, War Production Board Chairman, pointed out that although constant improvement has been made in collections since they began on June 1, 1942, the fact remains that two out of every three used cans are still being wasted. Mr. Nelson's statement follows:

"Tin cans have become a vitally important factor in the production of three of our most urgently needed metals. They provide not only pure tin, but large quantities of high-grade steel scrap, and are used to recover copper from mine waters.

"The applications of these metals to our war production program, of course, are almost innumerable. Tin is essential to the services and efficiency of the armed service. It protects the food and health of our fighting forces and our civilian population at home, as well as that of our allies. Tin also is a fight-

ing metal, since almost every weapon, conveyance, engine, and equipment used at the front and behind the lines contains sizeable quantities of tin.

"America's steel mills are depending upon detinned cans to supply a steady source of high-grade steel scrap. Ninety-nine per cent of every tin can is steel, and under point rationing, American kitchens will use in one year enough steel in tin cans to make 22,900 medium tanks or 900 destroyers.

"The copper mines in the Far West use shredded tin cans to precipitate copper from impregnated mine waters. Almost 10 per cent of our copper comes from this special process.

"Many other war-vital goods come from salvaged tin cans. The American people have been providing about 200,000,000 used tin cans each month. We are asking for 400,000,000 per month. This goal is obtainable. In fact, two out of every three tin cans are today being wasted in spite of the general improvement that has been made over the past year in this salvage program."

Used Tractor Tires Removed From Rationing Requirement

Used tractor and implement tires will be removed from rationing to encourage the full use of supplies of farm service tires in vital food production, the Office of Price Administration announced September 28.

Present regulations requiring a rationing certificate for new and used tractor tires have held back the desired flow of used farm service tires from dealers' stocks, OPA has determined. Farmers who obtain certificates for a tire have preferred, as a rule, to purchase a new tire rather than a used one. Reports indicate that, as a result, the movement of used farm tires has been insignificant. Removal of rationing restrictions is expected to expedite moving these tires into service, OPA said. This action is taken in Amendment 51 to Ration Order IA, effective October 2.

Production of Fish Netting

Fourth-quarter production of fish netting was put on a completely scheduled basis by the War Production Board, September 27.

The action was taken to assure fulfillment of all fourth-quarter requirements and also to maintain proper balance in the output.

A directive sent to netting manufacturers stipulates the exact minimum poundage of each type of netting which must be produced by each mill during each month of the quarter.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

Machinery—Equipment

This column is open only to members of the Association who want to buy or sell canning machinery and equipment. Names of firms listing the items below will be furnished upon application to the Association. In requesting names, please identify items by number.

FOR SALE

287-S—Wolfinger beet cutter.

288-S—Two Olney double washers, used only two seasons.

289-S—Two clipper cleaners, used only two seasons.

290-S—Colossal pea grader, used only two seasons.

291-S—Berlin-Chapman pea washer, used only two seasons.

292-S—Two hydraulic washer pumps, used only two seasons.

293-S—Split pea washer, used only two seasons.

294-S—Three Chisholm-Ryder viners.

295-S—Standard-Knapp labeling machine, used only two seasons.

296-S—Eight-inch, type N7MB "American" vertical, bronze fitted, 7-stage deep well turbine pump with bronze enclosed impellers; capacity, 150 gallons against 194-foot head.

1944 Farm Machinery Program

The War Food Administration has announced a new farm machinery distribution program which provides for actual rationing of considerably fewer items and in general sets up a much more flexible system for distributing the relatively greater supply of machinery to be available to farmers in 1944.

Reflecting the prospects of increased machinery production in 1944, the new program provides for distribution control over only 46 types of machinery instead of the 91 types this year. Only 31 are actually on the list of rationed items. The machinery outlook for 1944 is much improved, it was stated. There are no quota restrictions on manufacture of repair parts for 1944.

WPB Field Offices To Handle Applications up to \$1,000

Numerous application forms formerly routed to the War Production Board in Washington will now be processed in the field, as the result of specific measures announced by Operations Vice Chairman H. G. Batcheller, to implement the decentralization policy reported in last week's INFORMATION LETTER.

Under the new arrangements, field offices will have increased functions to perform in processing PD-1A applications and industrial projects under \$10,000. Among specific changes in regional handling of WPB applications are the following:

PD-1A Applications: At present, field handling is limited to applications of less than \$500 in value. This authority is now increased to applications up to a value of \$1,000, and after 90 days, the authority will extend to applications of a value of \$2,500.

Industrial Projects: On October 15, the field offices are scheduled to begin processing applications up to \$10,000 in value (excepting certain types of projects), and this authority is to be increased to cases of \$25,000 in value or less beginning January 15, 1944.

Sugar Allotment Made for Freezing of Applesauce

Sugar for processing frozen applesauce will be made available to processors at the rate of one pound to each nine pounds of fruit, the Office of Price Administration announced September 30.

Present War Production Board orders limit the amount of tin that may be used for canning applesauce to 75 per cent of the amount used for this purpose in canning the 1942 apple crop.

The new order permits the packaging of frozen applesauce only in containers of less than 30 pounds, and it is expected that the product will be put up largely in wrapped packages of 16 ounces, for consumer use.

Sugar is provided for this purpose in Amendment 90 to Rationing Order 3, effective October 4.

Refrigerant Pipe Ruling

The maximum length of refrigerant connections for which copper or copper base alloy pipe or tubing may be used is changed from 15 to 25 feet by Amendment I to Schedule VI of Limitation Order L-126, issued September 30 by the War Production Board.

OPA Answers Questions Regarding Rationing of Processed Foods

Point Values to be the Same for Each Grade of a Given Commodity

Replies to questions most frequently asked by the public regarding processed foods rationing were issued by the Processed Foods Branch of the Office of Price Administration, on September 28. Those questions and answers which had to do with canned foods are presented below:

Q. Why is it necessary to place on center cuts of canned asparagus the same point value as on tips, and thus encourage consumers to buy the tips and leave the center cuts standing on grocers' shelves?

A. As long as a package contains edible asparagus, the point value for one grade will be the same as for another. The processed foods rationing program is based on distributing the available supplies to make sure that everyone can obtain enough food. The matter of merchandising center cuts, as compared to asparagus tips, is a problem of price differential between the two styles, rather than one of nutrition. If the price inducement is sufficient, the two cuts will move in proper ratio.

Q. Why is it necessary to ration so many processed foods? Why not ration only the outstanding fruits and the most used vegetables?

A. A broad base of food items is necessary in order to give the rationing program flexibility. Many items under rationing, which may not seem important in some sections, are popular items in other sections; for example, mustard greens in the southern States. In addition, a number of items must be included in order to meet seasonal demands; for example, canned pumpkin, squash, and cranberry sauce for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. If the number of substitutable items were insufficient, ration buying would converge on a few popular favorites, and after the supply of these was exhausted, insufficient quantities would be available to meet ration demand. The rationed supply of the most used fruits and vegetables is not large enough to meet ration buying demand. Therefore, it is necessary to spread this buying power over a variety of substitutable items. These substitutable items constitute a sizable part of the total processed foods supply.

Q. How may points lost by a wholesaler or retailer be replaced?

A. In such circumstances, as, for instance, when a shipment of canned goods goes astray and the points invested in the shipment are "lost," a wholesaler or retailer may petition the OPA office with which he is registered, on Form R-315, asking for an adjustment under Section 14.5 of Ration Order 13.

Q. Why should adults be permitted to purchase baby foods, thereby taking such foods from the supply of babies?

A. OPA statistics received from the baby foods trade indicate that this program is evenly balanced. Incoming figures contained in monthly reports made to OPA do not reveal a diversion of baby foods to adult consumption. Apparently the adults are not dipping into the supply available for special needs of infants, and, in some cases, for older people who are ill and require baby foods for dietary reasons. This is indicated by the fact that actual movements of baby foods continue below OPA's scheduled movements.

Q. Why is the term "hermetically sealed and sterilized by use of heat" used in the definition of some of the processed foods?

A. Commercially canned foods are hermetically sealed and sterilized by heat in the process used in packing them. Consequently, the technical description is used in describing them. In addition, Ration Order 13 includes dried and frozen fruits and vegetables which are processed differently. For use in determining precisely what items are rationed under Ration Order 13 two limitations are provided. The Official Table of Point Values for Processed Foods specifically lists only the items that are rationed, and Appendix A sets forth specific items that are exempt from processed foods rationing.

Q. How can wholesalers realize their point investment in dented or damaged cans of processed foods?

A. A definite answer to this question is in the making. The Processed Foods Branch of OPA now has under consideration the whole question of dented, rusted, and otherwise damaged cans, and also foods in danger of spoilage. In working out a solution OPA has had the cooperation of industry representatives. The answer to the question is expected at an early date.

Q. Why are pickled, spiced, or branched fruits included in the program?

A. A part of the nation's fruit packs might be diverted into this special type of products if such fruits were ration-free. Consequently, it is considered necessary that such specialty items be rationed as well as fruits packed in the usual fashion.

Q. Why are point values set so high on canned pineapple, vacuum-packed whole kernel corn, tomato catsup, and other items?

A. Point prices are set on all items in direct relation of the movement of the item to its supply. The point value of each item is figured on the basis of its supply, and the amount that can be moved into consumption from month to month without draining the supply to too low a level. Any item which moves faster than its scheduled movement is

increased in point value. If it moves below schedule the point value is lowered.

Q. Why was the announcement of the plan to expedite the movement of canned foods from processors to wholesalers during the peak season delayed so long after the beginning of the program?

A. The announcement — covering point capital adjustments, and giving the wholesale factors for July, August, and September — was made almost a month ahead of schedule. OPA promised last January, while the program was still being formed, that the pack-moving program would be announced about July 1. Actually it was announced on June 7, and was in effect when needed to move the packs as they were produced.

NEW RATION POINT VALUES

Reductions Made in Canned Snap Beans and Corn; 6 Fruits Increased

The new point value table for processed foods, made public September 28 by the Office of Price Administration, shows point increases in nine items against reductions in four. In terms of quantities of foods involved, the point reductions outweigh the point increases, according to the OPA press statement.

This is because the items reduced in point value sell in greater quantities than the items being raised, it was explained. The point decreases are being made in canned snap beans, and in two popular varieties of canned corn. Point advances, with two relatively minor exceptions, are in canned fruits.

In addition, dried peas and lentils are being made ration-free upon the recommendation of the War Food Administration. At the start of the present ration period, September 5, the point value of dried peas and lentils was cut to 1 point a pound from the August figure of 4 points a pound. It has now been given a zero point value, which means, in effect, that dried peas and lentils have been removed from rationing, but may be restored to it. Country shippers will continue to send monthly reports on dried peas and lentils to OPA.

The new Official Table of Point Values for Processed Foods is the eighth to be issued under rationing, and becomes effective October 3.

A comparison of the present and the new tables shows:

Increases in six canned or bottled fruit items, and in one fruit juice. The

fruits are up 8 to 11 points for popular can sizes; the juice item, 3.

Decreases in three canned vegetables, and point rises in two. The changes range 2 to 4 points either way.

No change in frozen foods.

One dried food item reduced to 0. The present value is 1 point a pound.

The point advance in the six canned fruit items reflects their shortages of supply and military needs, it was stated. Civilian supplies are lower than a year ago. In order to spread these available supplies over a longer period, and to insure fair distribution, sharp advances have been made necessary in apricots, cherries, figs, grapefruit, and plums.

The lone change in canned or bottled juices—grape juice—reflects the diversion of a large part of grape production into the making of jams, jellies, and preserves.

Point rises in canned or bottled vegetables are confined to asparagus and mushrooms. Compared with corn, tomatoes, beans, and peas, these items are not widely used. They had been moving out more rapidly than their limited supply justified, and point values were increased as a result.

Reductions are announced for canned snap beans and in all varieties of canned corn except corn on the cob. The reductions have been made possible, OPA stated, as a direct result of the Government's appeal to farmers and gardeners to grow more beans and corn. The new crops of both are large.

The removal of dried peas and lentils from rationing stems from the fact

that this year's crop is the greatest on record. The dried bean crop also is of record proportions, as reflected in the continuance of the present low point value of 2 points a pound. Taking the three crops together, the balance left over for civilian use after military and other war requirements have been met is higher than it was a year ago, before processed foods rationing started. The result has been to divert some of the buying pressure from foodstuffs in scarce supply.

The following table lists all processed foods items in which point changes are announced effective October 3. The point values listed are for popular container sizes most frequently bought by consumers.

	Container Size	Point Value	New	Old
CANNED OR BOTTLED:				
Apricots.....	No. 2½	36	27	
Cherries, red sour.....	No. 2	25	14	
Cherries, all other (Excluding Maraschino type)....	No. 2	23	14	
Figs.....	No. 2½	21	13	
Grapefruit.....	No. 2	18	10	
Plums or prunes (All kinds).....	No. 2½	15	7	
Grape Juice.....	1-qt.	6	3	
Asparagus.....	No. 2	18	14	
Beans, green or wax.....	No. 2	8	10	
Corn, (Except vacuum-packed whole kernel, excluding corn on cob)....	No. 2	13	16	
Corn, vacuum-packed, whole kernel.....	12-oz.	10	14	
Mushrooms.....	4-oz.	5	3	
DRIED:				
Peas or Lentils.....	1-lb.	0	1	
MEATS, IN TINS OR GLASS:				
Army Field Ration, "C," Type 3.....		4.5	4.0	
Meat and vegetable stew.....		4.5	4.0	
Corned beef hash.....		6.0	0.0	
Dehydrated beef pemmican.....		20.0	15.0	
Spaghetti and meat balls.....		2.9	1.1	

Alaska Salmon Pack Report

The following figures on the Alaska salmon packs, prepared and reported by the Alaska Division of the U. S. Fish

and Wildlife Service, present the detail of the pack by districts and species through September 18, 1943:

DISTRICT	Coho Cases	Chum Cases	Pink Cases	King Cases	Red Cases	Total Cases
Bristol Bay*	167	37,073		6,033	1,275,081	1,318,354
Alaska Peninsula:						
North side*		3,680	54	56	30,330	43,120
South side*	6,665	70,624	167,101	1,036	177,096	433,422
Chignik.....	1,785	4,415	3,987	249	107,758	118,194
Kodiak.....	5,537	41,653	555,366	270	120,556	723,372
Cook Inlet*	23,546	26,254	58,903	31,311	102,964	242,878
Prince Wm. Sound.....	7,849	30,326	512,362	108	12,377	563,022
Copper River.....	14,517			4,968	56,790	76,275
Yakutat.....	4,887		1,577	215	9,999	16,678
Icy Strait*	3,147	63,985	60,881	124	11,397	139,534
Western*	6,011	161,503	123,186	55	16,258	307,013
Eastern*	5,452	110,912	93,048	799	7,192	217,403
Wrangell.....	16,242	75,377	120,321	68	11,610	223,618
South Prince of Wales Island*	14,812	61,553	158,498	15	5,636	240,634
Southern*	28,754	148,050	473,150	483	23,660	674,103
Total through September 18, 1943.	139,361	835,505	2,328,440	46,090	1,977,624	5,327,620
Total through September 19, 1942.	330,832	806,397	2,790,372	40,838	905,581	4,973,020

* Final.

Open Prices Granted Brined Cherries Pending Regulation

Processors of brined cherries have been authorized by the Office of Price Administration to sell and deliver their 1943 pack at open prices, looking toward adjustment of prices paid now after OPA issues a 1943 ceiling for this commodity.

The action was taken through Order No. 5 under Section 1400.19a of the General Maximum Price Regulation, which became effective September 24. Its issuance was necessary because ceiling prices now in effect for the cherries do not reflect increased costs to the processor and the processors therefore have been unwilling to deliver the brined cherries to manufacturers needing them for their own products, according to the OPA statement.

Maximum prices for the brined cherries of the 1943 crop will be set under a forthcoming amendment to MPR No. 306.

California Sardine Report

Estimated figures on tonnage of sardines delivered to California processing plants and cases of sardines packed during the current season to September 18, inclusive, as reported by the California Sardine Products Institute, are as follow:

TONNAGE:	Tons
San Francisco Bay.....	52,506
Monterey.....	54,480
Total.....	106,986
PACK:	
Can sizes:	Cases
1-lb. ovals.....	291,723
1-lb. talls.....	214,262
¾-lb. fillets.....	8,526
¾-lb. round 90's.....	30,991
5-oz. 100's.....	6,619
Miscellaneous.....	12,647
Total.....	564,668

Rowe on Leave from OPA

At the request of the Office of Economic Warfare, the Office of Price Administration, on September 28, granted Harold B. Rowe, director of OPA food rationing, a six months' leave of absence.

Mr. Rowe will assume new governmental duties as soon as practicable, it was stated, but the date for the transfer has not been set.

Mr. Rowe, who has been with the OPA and its predecessor agency since September, 1940, organized the food rationing programs which he has directed up to the present.

OPA EXPANDS USE OF LICENSING FOR PRICE CONTROL; ALL CANNERS GRANTED AUTOMATIC LICENSES TO SELL

Action was taken by the Office of Price Administration on September 27, to require all persons (except farmers and fishermen) who sell an article for which a maximum price is established to have a license to sell. At the same time, all present sellers, including canners, were granted automatic licenses. This action represents an extension of the Administrator's use of his price enforcement powers granted by the Emergency Price Control Act. It was taken by the issuance of Licensing Order No. 1 and Supplementary Order 72, both of which were effective on October 1.

The significance of the orders can best be explained on the basis of a short summary of the Administrator's use of licenses. The Price Control Act provides that the Administrator may require "a license as a condition of selling any commodity" for which maximum prices have been fixed. Licenses may not, however, be required of any farmer or fisherman. When a person has been granted a license and the person then violates the maximum price regulation, the Administrator may request a court to suspend the license for not more than 12 months. If the court suspends the license, the person then cannot sell the commodity while the license is suspended. The effect of the suspension of a license is to put the person temporarily out of business. The Administrator, however, cannot deny a license to anyone unless the person already has a license or unless the person has a license which is suspended.

The Administrator has previously granted a blanket license to sell to all persons, including canners, who sold at wholesale or retail. This was done by the General Maximum Price Regulation.

This action of the Administrator is the first time licenses to sell have been required and granted to all canners. Under Licensing Order No. 1, "any person who makes a sale under price control" is required to have a license to make those sales. The order then grants to all those persons, including canners, a license to make the sales. The order, in addition, provides that the license of the seller of a particular commodity shall include the provisions of all maximum price regulations for that commodity. For example, a canner who processes peas for sale to the wholesale trade is granted a license, the terms of which include all of the provisions of Maximum Price Regulation 306. As previously stated, no licenses are granted to farmers or to

fishermen since the statute exempts them from being required to have a license to sell.

Simultaneously, the Administrator issued Supplementary Order No. 72. This order added to all price regulations, which did not have any provision granting or requiring licenses, including Maximum Price Regulations 306, 364, 409, 418, 419, 425 and 426, the following language:

"Licensing. The provisions of Licensing Order No. 1, licensing all persons who make sales under price control, are applicable to all sellers subject to this regulation or schedule. A seller's license may be suspended for violations of the license or of one or more applicable price schedules or regulations. A person whose license is suspended may not, during the period of suspension, make any sale for which his license has been suspended."

This order, therefore, in effect amends the previously named maximum price regulations fixing prices for canned, frozen and dehydrated foods.

The actual operations of canners are not affected by the two orders. As previously stated, the canners will not be given written licenses, nor do they need to make any applications for licenses. The orders only become important if the canner violates the maximum price regulations, in which case the canner may be put out of business temporarily by the suspension of his license. The text of Licensing Order No. 1 follows:

LICENSING OF SALES UNDER PRICE CONTROL

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Price Administrator by the Emergency Price Control Act, as amended, it is ordered:

§ 1305.72 License required.

Any person who makes a sale under price control is hereby required to have a license to make such sales.

§ 1305.73 License granted.

A license to make sales under price control is automatically granted to all persons who now or hereafter make such sales. But the grant of this license to any person whose license heretofore granted by the Office of Price Administration is under suspension shall become effective for sales to which the suspension applies only at the end of the period of suspension.

§ 1305.74 License suspension.

A license granted hereby may be suspended in accordance with the provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942 for violations of the license or of one or more applicable maximum price regulations. The provisions of all such regulations are made a part of

each license granted hereby, and a violation of any such provision is a violation of the license. A person whose license has been suspended may not, during the period of suspension, make any sale for which his license has been suspended.

§ 1305.75 Previous licenses.

Every license heretofore granted by the Office of Price Administration and in effect when this order becomes effective, is merged and continued in the license granted by this order. The former license no longer continues as a separate license. If the former license is suspended by a pending license suspension proceeding, the license granted by this order is suspended to the same extent. Proceedings to suspend a license granted hereby may be begun and maintained without a further warning notice to any person to whom a warning notice under a previous license was sent.

§ 1305.76 Exemptions.

No license is required of, or granted to, a farmer as a condition of selling an agricultural commodity produced by him, a fisherman as a condition of selling a fishery commodity caught or taken by him, the United States, or any agency thereof, or any other government, its political subdivisions or agencies.

§ 1305.76a Definitions.

When used in this Licensing Order No. 1 the term:

(a) "Sale under price control" means any sale for which a maximum price is established by, or must be determined pursuant to, a maximum price regulation.

(b) "Maximum price regulation" means any maximum price regulation, revised maximum price regulation, price schedule, revised price schedule, or order establishing or providing for the determination of maximum prices, issued by the Office of Price Administration.

(c) "Person" includes an individual, corporation, partnership, association, or any other organized group of persons, or legal successor or representative of any of the foregoing.

(d) "Person who makes a sale" and "seller" include both a person who sells for his own account and a person who sells for the account of another, whether as broker, agent, auctioneer, or otherwise.

Effective date.

This Licensing Order No. 1 shall become effective 12:01 A. M. October 1, 1943.

Canned Milk Statistics

Production of evaporated milk (case goods) in August, 1943, was estimated by the Department of Agriculture at 275,500,000 pounds, exceeding August, 1942, by 5,476,000 pounds, or 2 per cent.

Production for the first eight months of 1943—January to August, inclusive—was 2,329,200 pounds, or 15 per cent smaller than production the same period last year.

Stocks of evaporated milk, at 376,779,000 pounds on September 1, were the second largest stocks of record for that date and 79 per cent larger than September 1, 1942 stocks.

Production of condensed milk (case goods) in August, 1943, is estimated at 8,031,000 pounds—an increase of 425,000 pounds, or 5 per cent over the August production of last year. Production for the months of January to August inclusive is estimated at 77,008,000 pounds, an increase of 34,821,000 pounds, or 81 per cent over the production of the same months last year.

Stocks of condensed milk (case goods) on September 1, totaled 10,736,000 pounds, 98 per cent larger than the stocks of September 1 last year, and the largest September 1 stocks since 1936.

CCC EXTENSION REQUESTED

(Concluded from page 7867)

War Food Administration and the Office of Price Administration. Administrator Jones was questioned, indirectly, as to his authority to carry out a program. He replied that he does not anticipate any serious difficulty in carrying out any assurances he would give the Committee.

Administrator Jones is scheduled to make his second trip to the Capitol since Congress convened when he appears before the House Agriculture Committee on October 6. The Committee has not announced the purpose of this appearance but reports are that he will outline his program for 1944.

Renegotiation Subcommittee Recommendations Are Awaited

At a meeting of the House Committee on Ways and Means it was decided to await the submission of recommendations for amendment of the Renegotiation Act that are being developed by a subcommittee. However, it is reported that the Committee voted not to recommend to the House the repeal of the Act. Further action by the full Committee on this subject, therefore, will be based on the subcommittee recommendations. The membership of the subcommittee was given in last week's issue of the INFORMATION LETTER.

Sugar Increase Is Continued

Temporary increases in sugar inventories of wholesalers and retailers, previously authorized through September 30, are continued to November 15, the Office of Price Administration has announced.

These increased inventories are provided to assure adequate stocks of sugar in the hands of dealers to meet increased industrial demands and the continued demand for sugar for home canning. The action is taken in Amendment 92 to Rationing Order 3.

Fresh Carrot Ceilings Set

Regional Offices of the Office of Price Administration have been instructed to set maximum prices on carrots, in sales prior to retail, on a basis of \$3.50 for crates of six dozen bunches, f.o.b. Salinas, California. Other units will be priced on the basis of normal differentials.

The action will be taken through the issuance by regional offices of amendments to orders issued under Maximum Price Regulation No. 376 (Certain Fresh Fruits and Vegetables).

Carrots were one of seven fresh vegetables on which prices were "frozen" last winter. Two of the others of these seven—cabbage and lettuce—have since been brought under specific controls at levels which represented sharp roll-backs and permanent control of the others is being worked out, it was stated.

At the time of the "freeze," carrots were most plentiful and there was no necessity, as there was in other instances, to "level off" regional prices. Recently, however, carrots have become scarce and markets which happened to be "frozen" at a higher ceiling than others are attracting all of them. This is the case, for example, in the instance of Chicago as against New York City. The action is intended to bring about a more even distribution of available carrots pending issuance of a permanent regulation.

Northeastern Acquires Plants

The Northeastern Packing Company, canners and freezers at Franklin, Maine, has purchased the A. & R. Loggie blueberry interests in the States of Maine and Vermont. The property consists of plants at Columbia Falls, Me., and Island Pond, Vt., as well as 23,000 acres of blueberry land in Washington County, Me.

Volunteer Corn Cutter Says It in Words and Music

The necessity of using volunteer help, recruited from the community, brought into the canning lines this season an array of diversified talents and skills. The minister's wife, the bank president, or the town cobbler might be found at the bean snipper, the pea viner or the tomato scaldier.

G. R. Garretson, of the J. B. Inderrieden Co., reports that among his helpers was Etta D. Kriese, a professional song writer, who has turned her experiences on a whole grain corn cutter into words and music. Mrs. Kriese, while her soldier husband was stationed in Fort Riley, Kansas, worked in a post exchange, and was inspired to do a song entitled "Over the Hill to the PX", which is now being played over several radio stations. She hopes for the same success with "The Kernel Cutter", an opus which celebrates her experience at Inderrieden's Mendota factory and the rousing chorus of which goes as follows:

One ear of corn for the Navy
One for the Coast Guard too
One for the See-Bees, the WACS and the WAVES
One for the SPARS and the loyal air force too.
One ear of corn for the Army
One for the fighting Marines
We will keep 'em flyin', all the gang is tryin'
To feed 'em with our machines.

Vegetable Powders Under GMPR

Vegetable powders used for making beverages have been exempted from the controls of the wholesale and retail fixed mark-up regulations and returned to the controls of the General Maximum Price Regulation, the Office of Price Administration announced September 29.

This action was taken through Amendment No. 3 to Maximum Price Regulation No. 421, Amendment No. 5 to MPR No. 422 and Amendment No. 6 to MPR No. 423. The amendments become effective October 4.

Under GMPR, vegetable food powders used for making beverages will be priced at the individual seller's March 1942 high or, where the individual seller was not offering the powder during March, 1942, by the formulas prescribed in the regulation or by order from OPA in Washington.

Distributor Squeeze on Cuban Pineapple and Juice Removed

To relieve a squeeze on wholesalers and retailers holding canned Cuban pineapple and canned Cuban pineapple juice purchased during the period May 10 to July 6, 1943, the Office of Price Administration on September 30 revised the manner in which these sellers can determine their maximum prices on these commodities.

Canned Cuban pineapple and pineapple juice originally were priced under Maximum Price Regulation No. 197, but were transferred to Revised MPR No. 237 (sales at wholesale) and Revised MPR No. 238, the fixed mark-up regulation for retail sales.

Application of the mark-ups in the latter two regulations to the uncontrolled prices in Cuba or from the importer here, however, resulted in prices considered too high by OPA. The two commodities, therefore, were put back under MPR 197. In this process, certain wholesalers and retailers were caught in a squeeze and it is to allow them to move the pineapple and pineapple juice they hold that OPA has amended No. 197 to allow them to take the mark-ups allowed under Nos. 237 and 238 for a limited time. Retailers buying from wholesalers who figure their prices under the amendment will be allowed to figure their prices by using the mark-up which was in No. 238.

This pricing method (amendment No. 4 to MPR 197) applies only to canned Cuban pineapple and canned Cuban pineapple juice bought under the above conditions. It expires December 1, 1943, in the case of wholesalers and January 31, 1944, in the case of retailers.

WFA Urges Food Processors To Guard Against Fire Loss

In connection with National Fire Prevention Week (October 3 to 9), the War Food Administration is urging food processors to take steps to prevent loss by fire of their food stocks, plants and equipment.

The rate of fire loss in food plants has increased disturbingly since Pearl Harbor, WFA officials point out. Reasons for the increase include: (1) plant expansion, with combustible building materials often used instead of scarce metals, and (2) a higher percentage of new and inexperienced employees.

From a national point of view, food destroyed by fire today is irreplaceably lost, because every ounce of food is badly needed.

Plant operators are urged to call their employees together for brief fire-prevention sessions. A point to emphasize is that the careless handling of cigarettes and matches is a major cause of industrial fires. Further preventive measures suggested to food processors by WFA are:

Clean up all combustible rubbish.

Regularly inspect sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, sand and water pails, hose lines and connections.

Either put ashes, waste, and combustible materials in metal containers equipped with metal covers, or remove them at once to a safe distance from buildings.

If fire doors are designed to be kept shut, keep them shut. If designed to be kept open till fire shuts them automatically, keep the opening clear of obstructions.

Process Suggestions Made For Crowder and Black-eye Peas

The Processing Committee of the National Canners Association has issued process suggestions for two products not listed in N. C. A. Bulletin 26-L, Fifth Edition. These are Crowder peas and black-eye peas.

The processes given for "Beans, Mature, and Soaked, Dried Legumes, Shelled types in unthickened sauce" on page 23 of the bulletin are now suggested for these products.

Olive Oil and Peanut Butter Are Added to Imports Order

To complete the system of import control of edible and inedible oils, the War Production Board has added olive oil and peanut butter to General Imports Order M-63. Olive oil was one of the few important commodities in this group which had not been subject to import restrictions. These two additions were effected through issuance of Amendment 2 to the order.

The amended order also exempts from its restrictions materials returned to this country as rejections, and materials shipped in transit from one point in Mexico or Canada to another point in the same country.

Specifically included in the amended order is a statement that WPB may direct the disposition and use of any material imported without authorization. This power has always existed, but is stated expressly to help in the administration of the order.

It is also made clear that removal of a material from the order does not affect any liability previously incurred under its terms.

WPB also announced that peanut butter is excluded from the exemption provided for certain materials moving overland, by air, or inland waterways from Canada, Guatemala, Mexico and El Salvador, under terms of Amendment 1 to Order M-63-a.

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